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International perspective

> Owin Jamasy
Djamaludin is pursuing
his PhD (Arts) at AeU

OWIN Jamasy Djamaludin, 54, hails from Sukabumi, West Java, Indonesia. He enrolled in PhD (Arts) in Asia e University (AeU), Malaysia in January 2016. He works as a sociologist, community empowerment specialist, and researcher at the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia.

In addition to being an environmental activist and gender specialist, he was also a lecturer, author of several books and scientific papers, as well as a consultant for human resources planning, development planning oriented to sustainability, empowerment and community development, poverty reduction, and training for capacity building and motivation.

Owin Jamasy said his decision to study in AeU is due to its reputable multinational status and support from 34 Asia Cooperation Dialogue member countries since AeU represents a symbol of cooperation between their academic facilitators, alumni, students and its community from the many nations.

"It becomes an important medium to accelerate learning through sharing and improvement of knowledge and experiences, even culture and empowerment between nations. Therefore, anyone who is in the neighborhood of AeU will be characterised by its creativity, innovation, progress, networking, partnership, togetherness, cost effectiveness, and insightful developments," he said.

AeU's eLearning system has disrupted the transformation

process of conventional education into alternative learning in a digital form in both contents and systems. The telecommunications infrastructure has favourably rendered support to eLearning. Academic facilitators are key in creating eLearning process that is active, creative, efficient, and fun.

AeU continues to innovate in the field of eLearning to improve the quality, accessibility and affordability for the masses on a large scale. The advancement of off-campus education has motivated the interest of international students like him to study in AeU.

However, students should not dream of becoming a scientist. From Owin Jamasy's observation, the main success of students is due to the success of students themselves in developing models and learning strategies.

Owin Jamasy said the digital library and the facilities at AeU are useful for research where learning resources such as web-based modules and multimedia courseware are accessible for him to view or download including access to the digital collection of thousands of e-books, e-journals, and over a million e-theses.

He added that his obsession for better understanding in Human Resources management, never stops, especially after his additional task to recruit experts

on social programmes under the Ministry of Public Works and the Ministry of Environment and Forestry.

Universities in Malaysia that became a study (2011 - 2016) are the University Utara Malaysia (UUM) for PhD (Human Resources) Programme, College Of Business, Kedah and the Ph. D (Arts) programme at AeU's School of Humanity and Social Science (SAHUSS).

The title of his PhD dissertation is *Job Characteristics, Job Satisfaction, and Productivity on the Citarum River Restoration, West Java, Indonesia*.

"It is based on the recovery of Citarum River (one of the dirtiest rivers in the world) that cannot only rely on infrastructure approach, which has been done by the government and related stakeholders, but it should be done with a non-infrastructure approach, which is to increase the dimensions of job satisfaction and increase the dimensions of the job characteristics.

"Citarum river is a case where productivity is low (river restoration is not achieved/ ugly). Input from the aspect of the budget, is relatively high, but with the wrong approach, productivity became low.

"In this case I raised the job characteristics as an independent variable, job satisfaction as independent variables (mediator), and productivity as the dependent variable," Owin Jamasy said.

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